

TO

October 18, 1980

Fellow Discoverers;

Andrew Davis
Wm. B. Palmer
Joaquin Alvarez
Pierce Sherman #

Fellow Arborists

Carol & Bill Watling
John Swigart #
Katy Swigart
Will Swigart
Charles Swigart
John W. Ryan
Dr. Tony Strdevant
Boon Hughey

Seed Procurers

Marjel DeLauer
Elizabeth Hughey
Lisa Hughey

Pilots

Olaf Timmer
Dana Timmer

Dear Friends;

Yesterday was perhaps the most exciting day I have had in many years, and it all happened on and over San Miguel Island. Three of us took off in a single engine Cessna well prepared with fresh seed, proceeded over a flat sea with very little wind, to San Miguel Island.

Passed Cuylers Harbor and Prince Island and at Cardwell Point dropped to about 300 feet altitude and made a pass from Southeast to Northwest from Cardwell Point to Simanton Cove. All the while I was sowing seeds over this longspan.

Because it is dry there most of the year of desert varieties. Principally Mesquite, Trees and Bird of Paradise Bush. Then to gild the lily there was added Silver Dollar which is a self seeding annual flower. For color there was included some of the brilliant red poppies that grow wild along the Canal du Mede in France.

We passed right over the remains of the B-17²⁴ that was lost there during the World War II years. Then flew up to Point Bennett and saw the thousands of seals and Sea Lions that make their home there.

On Around the island and made two or three turns of Cuylers Harbor and am happy to report that there is a nice showing of palms by the springs in that location. The tallest appearing to be about sixteen feet. It is too bad they are not higher up on the hill as they would seed the entire hill over the years. This must be tended to. The varieties growing Washingtonia Filifera (California Fan Palm), Chamerops Humilis (European Fan Palm, and Butia Yatay from Brazil that has a small fruit that is yellow and tastes like pineapple.

From the charts I have noted that there are a number of fresh water springs along the shore at Simanton Cove. This is the weather side of the island but would be a great place to start some additional palms with seed, as the springs are back from the ocean an ample distance that the salt water would not bother them. On visual inspection it would be easy to walk over the hill from Cuylers for this project.

The happenings of the day have made me so completely happy, and I know this island will again be reforested as it was several hundred years ago. Just wanted you people whom have participated in the past to know the the current status of plantings there.

In Memoriam

